

Thursday, April 18, 1957
 17 Nisan, 5717, 18 Ramadan, 1376

U.N. Force Fights ...Against Boredom

By PAUL KOHN

IT has been no small feat for the U.N. Force to settle down to life in the desert despite its less-than-monotonous hours. General Burns' job with his troops in Sinai and Gaza is even less enviable than the task that Ray-Aluf Dayan had with the "Zahel" boys and girls could at least look forward to home leave without having to cross continents to get there. Infrequent leaves to the "fishpots of Egypt" are hardly the same for the U.N. soldiers. General Burns commands 6,000 soldiers from as far off as Indonesia, Finland and Brazil. For this mixture the official U.N. language is English and it is in English that the Force's weekly "The Sand Dune" is edited by Major V. Longor Pro, of India. The newsletter gives all U.N. units a picture of the day-to-day life of their buddies from other countries, serving under the same flag.

"The Sand Dune" which introduces each unit, points out that whereas the Finns sweat in Sinai, the Indonesian Battalion feels much the same in the heat of the tropics. It also introduces each unit, points out that whereas the Finns sweat in Sinai, the Indonesian Battalion feels much the same in the heat of the tropics. It also introduces each unit, points out that whereas the Finns sweat in Sinai, the Indonesian Battalion feels much the same in the heat of the tropics.

LESSON IN FREEDOM OF THE STRAITS OF TIRAN

It was perhaps to be expected that the Arab states would unite to fight a diplomatic rear-guard battle over the freedom of the Straits of Tiran, the more so since the arrival there of an oil tanker a week ago. We shall not flatly state ourselves unduly if we say that there is also a large measure of envy in the present agitation; envy that Israel should have mustered the enterprise, know-how and money to build the pipeline from Eilat in a matter of months, and thereby to have provided the means to circumvent the Suez blockade while still fighting for the right of passage there also. It is likely enough that the Arab states did not take this possibility into account previously, and that their normal obstructiveness against any move made by Israel in her own interests has been reinforced in this case by genuine annoyance at an unexpected development. Much technical and other progress in this country is due to Arab blockades of one kind and another during the past 30 years, and we probably have not yet reached the end of this process. The urgency of the need for the use of the Port of Eilat, and the Asian and African markets which it opens, itself derives to some extent from the general Arab boycott and refusal to trade with Israel in the normal manner.

Camel Corps

THIS is probably the first time in history that Sweden has a "Camel Corps" in the Sinai. The Swedes have taken to desert camp fires and roasting sheep on sticks. All this new is to learn to dance the dabka to really capture the atmosphere.

For all units reading has become a favorite pastime, and mobile libraries transport Tolstoy, Hemingway, Hans Christian Andersen and P.G. Wodehouse through the desert. The Yugoslavs are said to be the champion readers. Lesser bookworms apparently are the Brazilians and Colombians who are known as the "Gay Ones." The Brazilians at Dir el-Balah put on an unrequited television show for CBS, and gasoline trombones and gasoline

INEF and the Kibbutz: A Contrast Across the Border Settlers' New Worry ...Hitting U.N. Troops

By MACABEE KASKIN

THE night comes alive here. It crawls with danger. To the settlers of Ein Hashlosha, facing the bristling Gaza Strip, no faint shadow in the night, stable as a rock or as restless as the tossing branches of a tree, can be written off as the offspring of a fertile imagination. For every slithering shadow, every rustling noise can— and sometimes does— explode into sudden death.

It was not always thus. For a short period—relatively speaking, for it started early in November and ended four months later—the night was quiet and peaceful; it was not a friend, admittedly, but at least it was not a certain enemy. Men and women and children walked abroad freely after dark. They still hugged their homes and carried weapons, but it was more from habit than necessity.

The first day after Israel pulled out of the Gaza Strip, the night came alive again. It regained its dominance with a vengeance. Things returned to normal: infiltrators stole 120 metres of irrigation pipes.

Danger After Dark

Today, and every day since then, the day begins to crawl with danger at twilight. It breeds fear until the first faint glimmer of dawn outlines the white swath cut out of the darkness by the settlement's floodlights. The barbed-wire entanglements gradually emerge from the soft darkness. Finally, individual barbs on the entanglements stand out.

From the watchtowers, as the sun's rays grow warmer, a couple of Arab felakhs can be seen walking peacefully to their fields far across the slightly rolling land gashed by a furrow. This furrow, which marks the border between Israel and the Gaza Strip, is two kilometers away. But the border seems to creep up to the settlement's perimeter every night.

Fourth Victim

In 1950, the kibbutz lost its fourth victim, David Wolpin, murdered in a pasture. He was buried under a lone tamarisk tree, the only tree in the entire area at that time. Then a fifth victim, a tractor driver training at the farm, was killed. Even today, it takes two men to run a tractor. One drives and the other holds a loaded rifle at the alert.

Yesterday's Press

Haaretz (non-party) feels unconvinced by the Citrus Marketing Board's denial of "any" charges on packaging citrus for export and asserts that from its behavior, the Board seems to be a group—then only 36 strong—intent on carrying out an important function over which it has almost unlimited authority. A new law covering the citrus industry will shortly be considered and it is hoped that the opportunity will be taken to determine basically the most suitable form of organization for running the industry which, in the future, just as it has in the past, will bring in more foreign currency than any other exports.

Wobbly U.S. Policy

Maariv thinks that Washington is trying to ride two horses in opposite directions. On the one hand, it is trying to support free navigation in the Gulf of Eilat; on the other, it is backing the Egyptian embargo on Suez and trying to appease Nasser. That is the reason for the wobbly character of American policy. The supply of oil to Eilat will also depend upon the line that gets drawn by the Egyptian stand which in turn will depend upon the line that gets drawn by the Egyptian stand which in turn will depend upon the line that gets drawn by the Egyptian stand.

Diplomatic Initiative

According to Haabera (General Zionism), what has happened in Jordan gives ground for putting Israel's diplomatic initiative into immediate operation. The head of the new Jordan Government, Akhri el Khalid, has openly declared that his policy is to expand the army in order to conquer Israel territory, and that only goes to confirm the contention of the "Economist" that Anglo-American policy is to give the Arab leaders reason to believe that they will be able to destroy Israel without serious international intervention on their part. Israel must lose no time in obtaining a clarification of the attitude of the great powers to such declarations that negate the U.N. Charter and even endanger regional peace.

Davar (Histadrut) writes

that the Lebanese protest of the arrival of the tanker at Eilat "as a violation of Arab territorial waters" can be taken only as an attempt to exploit the Israeli acceptance of the doctrine of deviation from "pan-Arab solidarity." If that were all, we could accept it as just another facet of the Arab political landscape, but coming together with the Washington officials' imputation that "Israel had put one over

India's Elections Show Democracy at Work

By ELIZABETH PARTRIDGE

WHEN the British quit India nearly a decade ago, numerous Colonel Blimps in the Athenaeum Club forecast that the would fall to pieces within six months. Now, at a gloomy moment in Commonwealth relations, India has justified the wisdom of self-government by carrying out her second general elections—the greatest democratic experiment ever conducted—freely, efficiently and peacefully.

This operation has shown two things: first, that democracy is taking root here and second, that India's stability and strength are being established beyond doubt. The importance of this cannot be underestimated at a time when Indonesia and Pakistan are giving serious concern for the future of Asian democracy.

Million Officials

More than a million men, mainly government officials and teachers, were pressed into service to man the 20,000 polling stations during the fortnight in which the elections were completed—a great advance on India's first elections which were spread over three months.

Today the huge election machine is being dismantled, as results flow in and nearly 100 million voters are mobilized. To say this is not to deny the fact that the election machine is being dismantled, as results flow in and nearly 100 million voters are mobilized. To say this is not to deny the fact that the election machine is being dismantled, as results flow in and nearly 100 million voters are mobilized.

Indians' Second Elections

India's second elections were held in a spirit of calm and order. The Congress party, which had won the first elections, is expected to win again. The opposition parties, including the Praja Socialist Party and the Praja Party, are expected to lose. The results of the elections will be announced in the coming days.

Magazine Column

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LIFE March 4 Epic of Man: VIII—The MINOANS, Europe's First Civilization.

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READER'S DIGEST March

PARIS MATCH March 20 Dayan vient dire un dernier adieu au Sinai.

Devant les epaves de la victoire, volée le rabbin dit: "Nous reviendrons."

Churchill: Le Géant de l'Histoire ELIZABETH.

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Today, April 18, at 6 p.m.



A U.N.E.F. soldier stands guard on the border between Gaza and Israel. The demarcation line is a trench one metre wide and one metre deep. Note that the soldier is posted facing the Israeli side.

U.N.E.F. history in the Middle East began on November 15, 1956, when the first Danish troops, closely followed by the Norwegians, landed at Abu Suweir airfield. These two units joined to form the "Danor" battalion, now guarding the North Gaza Strip. These vanguard troops of U.N.E.F. will in a few weeks be relieved by others of their own countries. They told us that they would not be sorry to be home, but very much regretted that they had not been permitted to visit Israel during their stay in these parts.

Many of the soldiers are devout Catholics and Protestants and they feel it is a pity to lose perhaps their only opportunity to tour the Holy Land.

Readers' Letters

RASSCO BUS ROUTE

Sir, — Referring to the correspondence in your columns regarding the change of the Rassco bus route from the Rasseco shikun (your issue of March 21), we should like to inform you that—after thorough consideration of this problem, the Ministry of Road Transport arrived at the conclusion that the extension of bus line number 3 to this shikun will give rise to difficulties which have encountered with the number 13 line. This decision was taken with the approval of the Rassco Shikun Committee.

Yours, etc.

NATHAN NEVO

Public Relations Director

Ministry of Transport

Jerusalem, April 8

CHILDREN'S HOME

Sir, — The other day I was shown a "Camel Corps" in the Sinai. The Swedes have taken to desert camp fires and roasting sheep on sticks. All this new is to learn to dance the dabka to really capture the atmosphere.

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KEEPING POSTED

SINAI comes and Sinai goes, and in no time at all people are looking in a reference book to see who this Nasser was. But the story of the first Israel journey through Sinai goes on for ever, even though it took place quite some time ago. Especially in a place like Meah Shearim, where people have something more urgent to do than worry about current troubles with Egypt, the Passover is no simple matter. The withdrawal of those days has bequeathed us a legacy of a triumph and elaborate festival, the pleasure of eating matzot, an annual spring cleaning, and new shoes for the children apart from certain other more important things. There is a white paint for the front of your house if you can afford it, and pale blue white-wash if paint is too dear. For days ahead, the mattresses were out in the sunshine of the courtyard, gathering as much new dust as old dust had just been beaten out of them. The net curtains were washed and stretched, and if there is a patient grandmother in the family they were also painstakingly mended. The men don't mind the much part in the part of the ceremony that is concerned merely with outer cleanliness, and hang around to supervise the ritual scolding of the kitchen utensils. It is the women's day for once.

FOR much of the rest

of the city that keeps the law 1957 is the day of plastic dishes, which, like plastic, have been declared fit for use on Passover. (Clay and china may have cracks that harbor fragments of fermented grain, glass is proof against such dangers.) But in the orthodox quarters (families with little money and many children; the age of plastic convenience has not penetrated everywhere. What can you do? You buy for Passover a new stove to keep food hot on the Sabbath, made of two petrol tins, and for 200 pruta extra you can have one with

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